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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

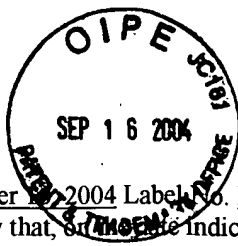
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number		10/691,186			
		Filing Date		October 22, 2003			
		First Named Inventor		John G. ATWOOD			
		Group Art Unit		1744			
		Examiner Name		William H. BEISNER			
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		8 pages plus 3 documents		Attorney Docket Number		5010-141-01	
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)							
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form		<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)		<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences		Customer No. 35411	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached		<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers		<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply		<input type="checkbox"/> Petition		<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information			
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final		<input type="checkbox"/> Petition For Extension of Time		<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter			
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)		<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgement Postcard			
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request		<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request		<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer		Form PTO/SB/08a (1 page), Form PTO/SB/08b (1 page), Copies of Cited Documents (3 documents), and Copy of European Search Report			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement		<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund					
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)		<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group					
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		Remarks					
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT							
Firm or Individual name		William O. Trousdel					
Signature		<i>William O. Trousdel</i>					
Date		September 16, 2004					
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING							
Date: <u>September 16, 2004</u> Label No. <u>EV 348581651 US</u>							
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Type or printed name		April D. Brandon					
Signature		<i>April D. Brandon</i>		Date		September 16, 2004	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which has to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing the burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS: SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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April D. Brandon
Name (Print)

April D. Brandon
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/691,186 Confirmation No.: 6805
Applicants : John G. ATWOOD et al.
Filed : October 22, 2003
TC/A.U. : 1744
Examiner : William H. BEISNER

Attorney Docket No. : 5010-141-01
Customer No. : 35411

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 16, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a and Form PTO/SB/08b. One copy of each listed document is enclosed.

The documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a and Form PTO/SB/08b were cited in, and include, a European Search Report issued for Application No. EP 04005554.3, an application corresponding to the above-captioned application, and are being submitted prior to the three-month anniversary of the date of mailing of the European Search Report.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that at least the patents cited in the attached Form PTO/SB/08a and Form PTO/SB/08b be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

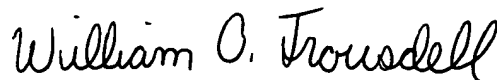
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/691,186
Information Disclosure Statement dated September 16, 2004

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the cited patents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicants determine that the cited patents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if it is determined that a petition or fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0925, and please consider this a petition.

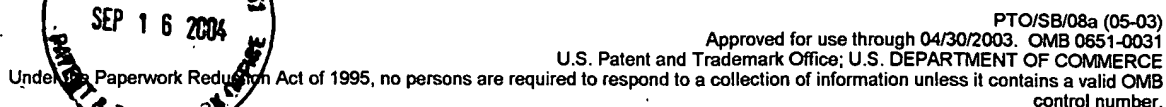
Respectfully submitted,



William O. Trousdell
Reg. No. 38,637

KILYK & BOWERSOX, P.L.L.C.
3603-E Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, VA 22030
Tel.: (703) 385-9688
Fac.: (703) 385-9719

Enclosures: Transmittal Form
Form PTO/SB/08a (1 page)
Form PTO/SB/08b (1 page)
Copies of Cited Documents (3 documents)
Copy of European Search Report
Acknowledgement Postcard



(use as many sheets as necessary)

1

of

2

Application Number

10/691.186

Filing Date

October 22, 2003

First Named Inventor

John G. ATWOOD

Art Unit

1744

Examiner Name

William H. BEISNER

Attorney Docket Number

5010-141-01

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ²
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP 0 342 155 A	11-15-1989	Seyffer & Co. et al.		
		EP 0 318 255 A	05-31-1989	Eastman Kodak Co.		
		WO 89/09437 A	10-05-1989	Evans et al.		
Examiner Signature				Date Considered		

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. *Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). *See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. *Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). *For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. *Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. *Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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Name: April D. Brandon

Signature

Deputy D. Blandon

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO						<i>Complete if Known</i>									
						Application Number				10/691,186					
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						First Named Inventor				John G. ATWOOD					
						Art Unit				1744					
						Examiner Name				William H. BEISNER					
						Attorney Docket Number				5010-141-01					
SHEET 2 OF 2															
NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS															
Examiner Initials*		Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.										T ²		
			European Search Report, mailed June 30, 2004, for European Application No. EP 04005554.3.												
Examiner Signature										Date Considered					

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